

If Sinclair is permitted to air as planned the anti-Kerry documentary, networks and independent stations should be able to air free of charge "Going Upriver: The Long war of John Kerry." But if any station were to do that, Sinclair would be screaming and requesting the FCC to take action against the station.

As an attorney, I believe that prior restraint considerations are outweighed by the prejudice and irreparable harm to a fair election of the broadcast (the test re 1st amendment).

At a minimum, a full hearing should be scheduled immediately or Sinclair should be required to direct its stations also to broadcast "Going Upriver."

Sinclair Broadcasting's decision to force their stations to air an anti-Kerry documentary days before the election is a clear example of the dangers of unfair preferential treatment given the conservative media by the FCC under Michael Powell.

Sinclair's actions show why we need to strengthen media ownership rules, not weaken them. They show why the license renewal process needs to involve more than a returned postcard. Thank you.